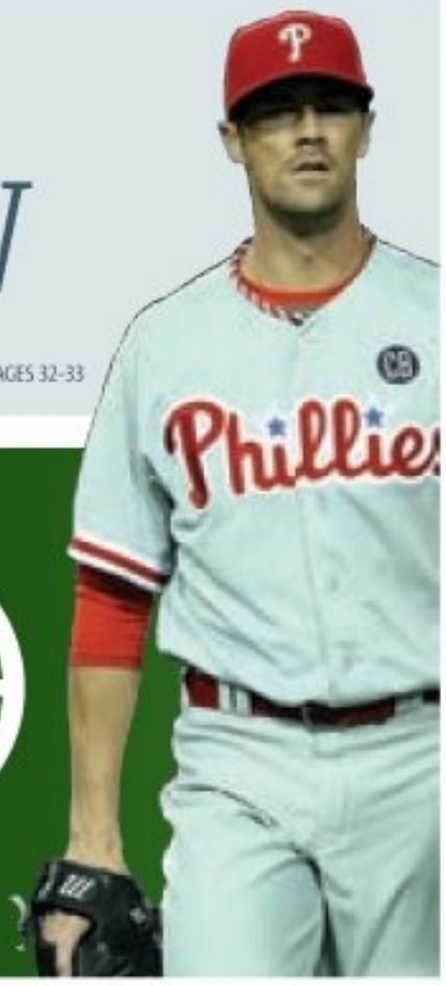
# PHILLIES SPRING TRAINING PREVIEW

THE COLE HAMELS SAGA AND NINE MORE STORYLINES. PAGES 32-33

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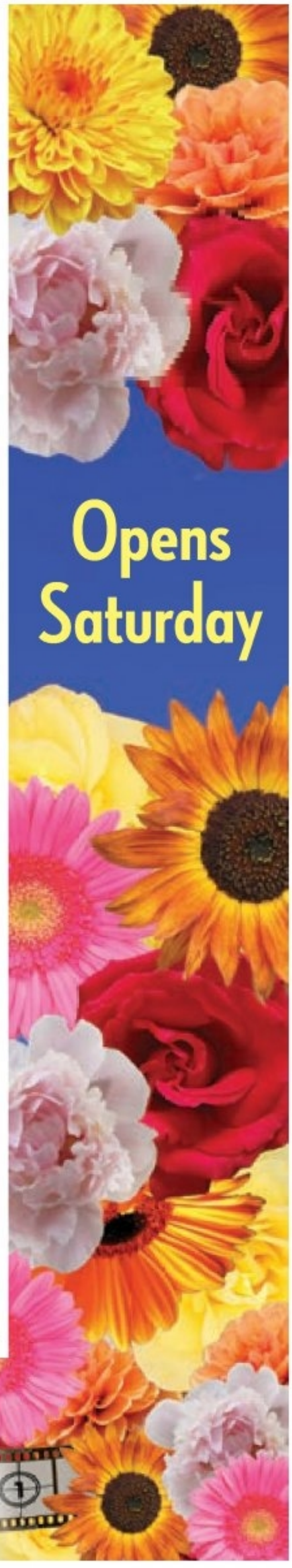
# WILL POWER

**Old and new.** Will Smith shares space with "It" girl Margot Robbie in the new comic thriller "Focus." Robbie talks to us about adjusting to stardom, while Smith talks about his "full-on, steamy, grown man-ness." PAGE 16

Margot Robbie plays an aspiring con artist who gets involved with longtime pro Will Smith in the scamming comedy "Focus." / FRANK MASI



1 NEWS

Top 3

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Riki Noar stocks the shelves at the PLCB store at 11th and Wharton Streets in South Philadelphia. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

# Liquor privatizing bill passes House

**Liquor up.** Plan to sell off stage booze monopoly moves forward.

***The Pennsylvania House on Thursday voted 114 to 87 to privatize the state's liquor stores on a party line vote. Does that mean we're finally on our way to getting rid of the system? Here's a look at how the politics shake out.***

### Republicans

Led by Mike Turzai, the conservative speaker of the state House of Representatives, the GOP wants to abolish the state store system and sell licenses to private businesses, including existing beer distributors. They say this could lower alcohol prices and provide a one-time cash infusion of $1.1 billion.

### Democrats

Democrats fear the loss of 4,000 unionized jobs. They also worry about the impact of the loss of revenue the sale of alcohol provides to the state — about $126 million annually — would have on its budget. They have pushed a raft of measures to make the system more convenient. They propose extending state store hours and allowing wine distributors to ship their wares directly and allowing Pennsylvania to team up with other states that buy alcohol wholesale to increase buying power.

### The analyst

Franklin and Marshall University pollster Terry Madonna says that the state's residents support privatization, but not enough to make it an issue they would change their choice of candidates for. "It's not a vote-choice issue," Madonna said. "There's no intensity."

### History

There have been privatization attempts under at least three different governors, including Dick Thornburg, who left office in 1987. The House passed a similar measure in March 2013, but it was never taken up by the state Senate.

### The result

History says the chances of anything getting done in this session are slim indeed.

DAN KELLEY
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Quoted

"I'm used to it. I grew up in Jersey and all the alcohol is sold separately. So it doesn't affect me personally, but if having state stores is better for taxes than I'm all for them."

Alice Kielmanski

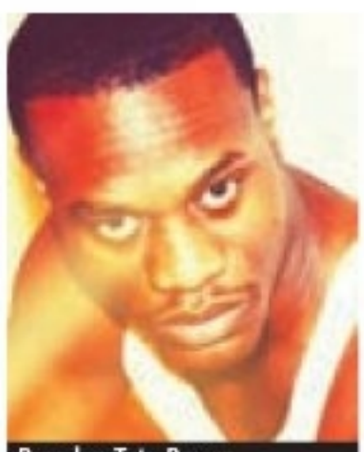
"I think you should keep the state stores because you'll get kids that will get someone to buy it for them if it's in the supermarket."

Dwayne Kitchen

"I have family that lives in Ohio and it's so easy and convenient to get it and so that's a big plus. But, here it's not that hard to get. So I don't think it's that bad either way convenience-wise."

Marilyn Demers

## Tate-Brown. Lawyer says records contradict each other


Brandon Tate-Brown
COURTESY

The attorney for the family of Brandon Tate-Brown, the Philadelphia man killed in a controversial police shooting, says he's discovered an inconsistency in police records.

Lawyer Brian Mildenberg said the city medical examiner's report includes a version of the shooting that contradicts the one officially released by police to the media.

"The story that was told to the [medical examiner] is way different from the press release or the official position on the website," said Mildenberg.

The medical examiner's report says police stopped Tate-Brown after running his license plates.

It does not mention Tate-Brown's lights being off while driving, which was publicly cited as the reason for the initial stop. Mildenberg said that when he saw surveillance video showing the stop, Tate-Brown's lights were on.

Family members have claimed Tate-Brown was stopped for "driving while black."

"It looks to me that the initial information given to the [medical examiner] was the correct story, and then that changed as time went on," he said.

The initial police report says officers shot Tate-Brown after he struggled with them and ran for a gun in his car.

An attorney familiar with the process who asked not to be identified said medical examiner's reports are not typically authoritative.

"It's not like a signed statement from police personnel," he said.

Police did not respond to a request for comment.

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# Black Madam: 'I wanted to help'

**Silicone.** A defendant charged with murder testified that she only wanted to provide women a needed service.

Windslowe / PPD

"They called me their fairy godmom."

This was part of the defense of Padge-Victoria Windslowe, 43, who is charged with third-degree murder for the death of Claudia Seye Aderotomi of England, who died in February 2011 after allegedly getting a silicone injection to inflate her posterior for cosmetic reasons from Windslowe.

Windslowe took the stand in her own defense Thursday and shared her life story as she defended herself against the charges.

"I always wanted to be a cosmetic surgeon," she testified. She got into the business to "help make male butts more feminine."

Discussing the death of Aderotomi, Windslowe said the victim "had Four Loko prior to the injection."

"Claudia said she was leaking, she coughed, and said she had a tickle irritating her throat," Windslowe testified.

After leaving, Windslowe called a friend to see how Claudia was feeling.

"She said they decided to call an ambulance because Claudia was not feeling any better. So I called back every hour on the hour to see what was going on and Scheffee [Wilson] kept saying they were taking routine tests," she testified.

"I fell asleep," Windslow said, "and first thing when I woke up, I called Scheffee. I said, 'What's up?' She said, 'What do you think?'

'What?'

'What do you think? R.I.P., baby. R.I.P.'

"It was really cold, really indifferent," Windslowe said. "R.I.P. rang through my soul for four years."

She added: "It was the most horrible day of my life. ... I never meant anything like that to happen."

JOHN CORRIGAN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

## The Bowl abides

Jim Giffear bowls on the opening night of the new South Bowl. Located at Front and Oregon Streets in South Philadelphia, South Bowl is sister to the well-known North Bowl in Northern Liberties. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

SEPTA snarl

## Downed wire traps 500 commuters

Some 500 commuters were trapped on a SEPTA Regional Rail train for nearly two hours Thursday after an overhead electrical line fell on the vehicle.

The inbound R2 from Warminster stalled just south of Roslyn at approximately 8:15 a.m., SEPTA spokeswoman Heather Redfern said.

Electricians for the authority worked to ground the wires while the passengers remained on the train. After getting the all-clear signal, SEPTA used a rescue train to transfer riders.

SEPTA used shuttle service between Glenside and Warminster through most of Thursday, but had restored train service before the evening rush hour.

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# Bag ban. Activists call for nickel bag charge

Three environmental groups today launched a new effort to get City Council to pass a bill that would require shops to impose a charge on the use of plastic or paper bags, encouraging people to carry their groceries in reusable bags instead.

"Philadelphia has no shortage of plastic bags in the environment," said Brooks Mountcastle, eastern Pennsylvania director for Clean Water Action. "They clog our storm drains, they line our river banks, they hang in tree branches, and they degrade and devalue our neighborhoods."

In Washington D.C., a 5-cent charge has cut bag use 67 percent, said Logan Welde, an attorney with the Clean Air Council.

A 25-cent per bag tax failed to pass the City Council in 2009.

In a preemptive strike against the expected push-back by industry, Welde said plastic bags can't be recycled by the city's recycling program, and frequently result in costly delays to the recycling process by blocking machinery.

**By the numbers**

**5**

Activists want a 5-cent per bag fee

The trouble with the new initiative is that any bill is far from being a reality. Activists are looking to Councilman Mark Squilla to introduce the measure, but a bill is months away from being drafted, said Anne Kelly, Squilla's chief of staff.

"We've been working on introducing bag legislation, but it's not at the point where it's ready for introduction," Kelly said. "We are still getting input from the retailers and some of the other interested parties. It's still under development."

Kelly said she hoped the bill would be ready in "another couple of months." JON HURDLE

## A month to remember

A reenactor portrays colonial chocolate maker Mary Crathorne at the Betsy Ross House on Thursday, as part of the kickoff to Women's History Month events at the Betsy Ross House. The Betsy Ross House is one of the only museums in the U.S. dedicated to a woman. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

# Homicide. Violent night leaves three dead across the city

It was a deadly night in Philadelphia on Wednesday with three homicides in as many hours.

Police say a 35-year-old woman was found in the driver's seat of a white Lincoln Town Car on the 200 block of West Moreland Street around 11:40 p.m. She was shot in the chest and on her left side, and taken to Temple University Hospital where she died at 12:09 a.m.

Police say two men, both 22 years old, were found on the 2700 block of Latona Street around 2:15 a.m. One, shot in the head, chest and arms, was taken to Presbyterian Hospital where he died at 2:38 a.m. The other, shot in the legs and back, also died at Presbyterian, at 4:02 a.m.

Police have not released the victims' names.

The number of homicides in Philadelphia for 2015 has now risen to 40. JOHN CORRIGAN

PennDOT

## Some drivers' licenses defective

PennDOT says drivers licenses issued between November and February 25 may not be accepted as valid ID because they lack a security feature only visible under black light.

PennDOT doesn't know how many licenses are affected, but says they should still be acceptable to TSA. METRO

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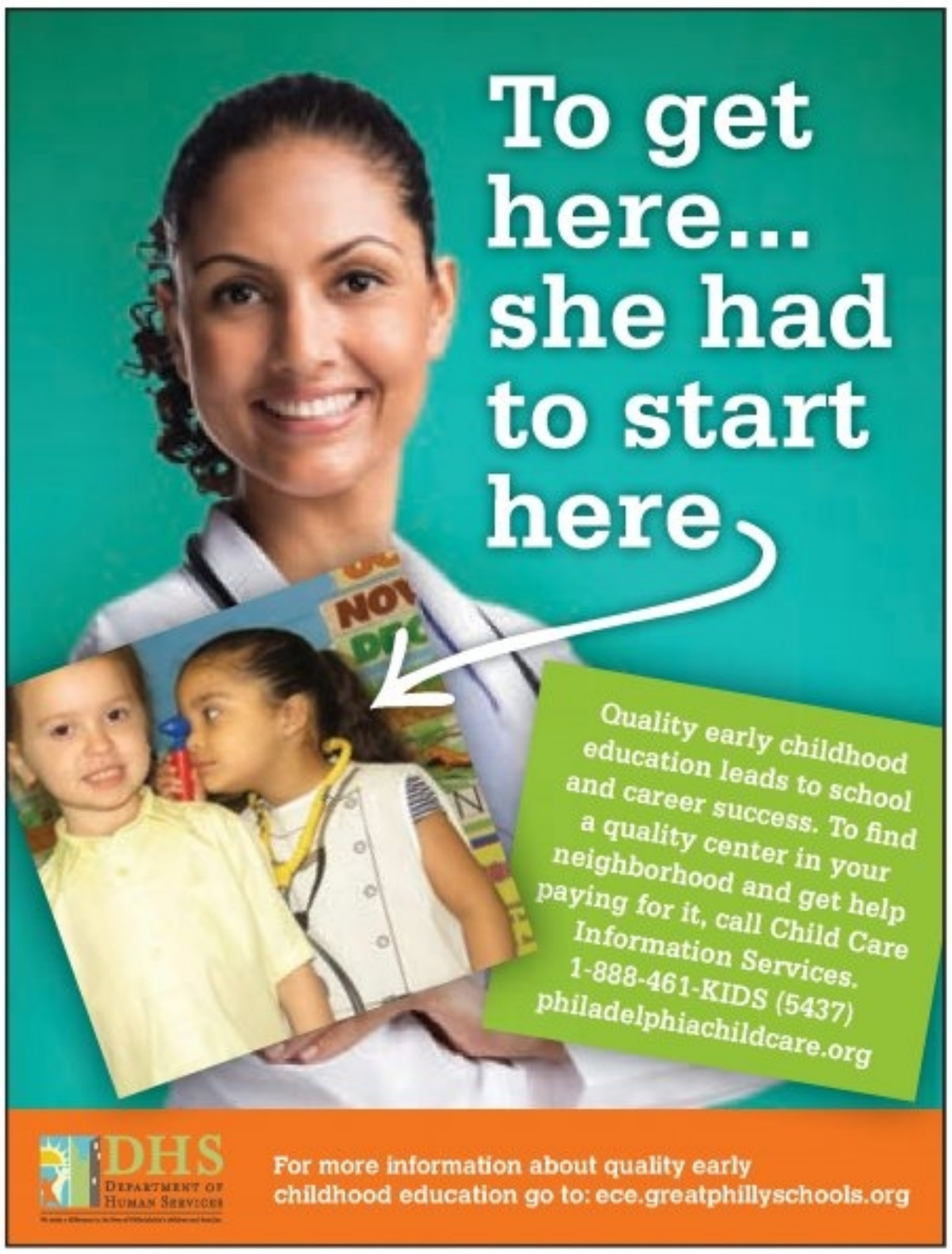
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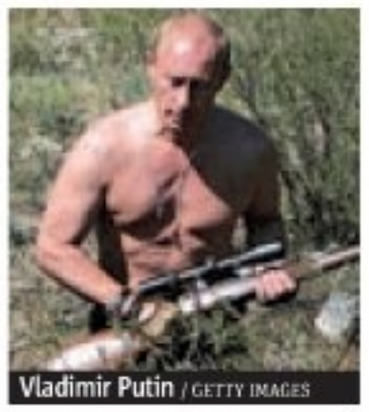
# Putin is a 'naked king' facing economic ruin, says former tycoon

**Insult.**
Khodorkovsky once controlled Russia's biggest oil company, YUKOS.

Former Russian tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky said on Thursday Vladimir Putin was a "naked king" presiding over an economy that will weaken further, eventually provoking a battle between rival clans in Moscow.

"Putin with bare chest isn't a mighty leader. He is a naked king," Khodorkovsky, once Russia's richest man who was arrested in 2003 after falling foul of Putin only to be released in 2013, told an audience in London.

Khodorkovsky said the Russian economy would weaken further and that eventually its weakness would provoke a battle between the powerful clans which dominate Russia.


Vladimir Putin / GETTY IMAGES

**Quoted**

**"Russia will have to stand long in agony by the bed of the sick emperor."** Khodorkovsky

In a message which is likely to anger the 62-year-old Kremlin chief, the former tycoon also called on the West to build ties with opposition groups in expectation of an end to the Putin era.

"Tomorrow when the regime changes you will have to build a relationship and you will have very little time," Khodorkovsky, 51, told an event organized by Chatham House policy think tank.

Khodorkovsky, who once controlled Yukos Oil Co., was convicted of tax evasion and fraud in a Moscow trial which he said was motivated by enemies who wanted to rip apart his company and punish him for his political ambitions.

He always denied the charges. Yukos was crippled with massive back-tax claims and then its main Siberian oil production units were sold off by the state, only to be bought later by state-controlled companies.

REUTERS

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# Five things you need to know

## 1 'Jihadi John' uncovered

The masked "Jihadi John" killer who fronted Islamic State beheading videos has been identified as Mohammed Emwazi, a British computer programming graduate from a well-to-do London family.

The black-clad militant brandishing a knife and speaking with an English accent was shown in videos released by Islamic State (IS) apparently decapitating hostages including Americans, Britons and Syrians.

The 26-year-old militant used the videos to threaten the West, admonish its Arab allies and taunt President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron before petrified hostages cowering in orange jump suits.

Emwazi's name was first disclosed by the Washington Post, citing unidentified former associates, but two U.S. government sources who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed to Reuters that investigators believed Jihadi John was Emwazi.

Jihadi John became a menacing symbol of Islamic State brutality and one of the world's most wanted men.

Emwazi was born in Kuwait but came to Britain aged 6 and graduated with a computer programming degree from the University of Westminster before coming to the attention of Britain's main domestic intelligence service, MI5. REUTERS

## 2 Tougher Internet rules hit U.S. cable, telecom companies

U.S. regulators on Thursday imposed the toughest rules yet on Internet service providers, aiming to ensure fair treatment of all web traffic through their networks.

The Federal Communications Commission voted along party lines, with Democrats in favor, to approve new "net neutrality" rules that seek to restrict broadband providers' power to control download speeds on the web, for instance by potentially giving preference to companies that can afford to pay more. REUTERS

## 3 Lives, weapons at stake if budget caps remain: U.S. Navy, Marines

Navy and Marine officials told lawmakers that training and weapons programs would be hit hardest if Congress fails to remove budget caps known as "sequestration" that are due to resume in fiscal 2016.

General Joseph Dunford, commandant of the Marine Corps, said the result would be that his military branch would not be able to respond as quickly to crises around the world, or the lives of Marines could be in jeopardy. REUTERS

## 4 Lawyers for Tsarnaev challenge jury-selection process

Lawyers for the accused Boston Marathon bomber filed on Thursday a last-gasp request to dismiss the charges against their client or delay the start of the trial next week, contending that court officials had violated their own rules during jury selection.

Attorneys for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev argued in a court filing that after randomly assigning numbers to the more than 1,350 people who reported for initial selection early last month, the court reordered the jurors based on arrival time. REUTERS

## 5 US jury convicts Saudi over Africa embassy bombings

A Saudi man described by prosecutors as one of Osama bin Laden's most trusted lieutenants was convicted in a federal court in New York on Thursday in connection with the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Khalid al-Fawwaz, 52, faces up to life in prison after a jury convicted him on four conspiracy counts on their third day of deliberations. REUTERS

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The attorney said the verdict marked the 10th conviction at trial or via a guilty plea of a defendant tied to the bombings, which killed 224 people.

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# Senate nears security funding vote. Boehner mum on House plans

With the clock ticking toward a midnight Friday deadline to avoid a partial shutdown of the U.S. domestic security agency, the Senate is moving toward passing a funding bill, but the House of Representatives leader offered no hints of following suit.

The Republican-dominated House has passed a $39.7 billion bill to pay for Department of Homeland Security operations, but that measure blocks funding for President Barack Obama's executive order last year lifting the threat of deportation for millions of undocumented immigrants.

Senate Democratic and Republican leaders reached a tentative deal on Wednesday to vote on a spending bill without the House restrictions, although it was unclear when the vote would occur. Senate leaders were trying to get agreement from all 100 members to allow a quick vote. REUTERS

**Quoted**

**"The House has done its work. When the Senate does its work, we'll let you know how we will proceed."**

House Speaker John Boehner, speaking to reporters

# Conservative activists take careful look at a 'squishy' Jeb Bush

**Family.** Jeb Bush is viewed as more conservative than his father and brother.

Jeb Bush / GETTY IMAGES

Jeb Bush may have wealthy Republican donors backing him, but the former Florida governor will have to woo conservative activists wary of his moderate positions to win his party's 2016 nomination for president.

As a gathering of grassroots conservatives got under way on Thursday, Republican activists were enthusiastic about potential contenders like Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson.

What about Bush?

"Nope. Too squishy," said Mike Potaski, 66, of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, said at the meeting of the Conservative Political Action Conference, the annual speechathon and political rite taking place in Maryland near Washington, D.C.

Bush, 62, has won early support among donors and party insiders looking for a candidate who can attract centrist voters who decide U.S. presidential elections. He may be a tougher sell for the conservative foot soldiers who provide much of the party's grassroots energy. REUTERS

**Quoted**

**"Way, way too squishy on immigration."**

Paul Schmutzler, 56, of Arlington, Va.

**Quoted**

**"There's nothing really special about him but his name."**

Daniel Ashford, 20, Alabama student

**CPAC**

CPAC serves as an important networking event for conservatives and a testing ground for rising GOP stars.

- It is also a "boot camp to take on liberals," says Tenn. Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn.
- Attendees said they were reluctant to back a prospective candidate they alternately described as too moderate, too bland and too vulnerable to Democratic attacks.

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# OMG! Meet Zach Norris, smart and thrifty man who buys a watch for $6, sells it for $35,000

Zach Norris, with his rare "Jaeger-LeCoultre Deep Sea Alarm" timepiece he purchased from a Goodwill second-hand store in Phoenix for $5.99. He subsequently sold it for $35,000. / ZACH NORRIS

At a thrift shop in Arizona, Zach Norris certainly had a "rare old time." The 26-year-old watch collector stumbled upon a rare "Jaeger-LeCoultre Deep Sea Alarm" timepiece in a second-hand store in Phoenix with a $5.99 price tag on it. Norris put the Swiss-made 1959 model up for sale on water collectors' website Hodinkee, with a San Francisco resident paying $35,000 for it. "With the extra funds, I'm paying for my wedding," Norris told Metro.

**Why did you decide to buy this $5.99 watch?**
I bought it because I'm familiar with the Jaeger-LeCoultre name. I knew their early pieces, especially divers, were worth a lot of money. However, even if it wasn't a JLC, I still would have purchased it. I have just been looking for a bumper to put in my collection.

**Why are you passionate for vintage watches?**
Because they didn't have the production methods we have today. Everything was handmade. A 1950s no-name, hand-wound or auto may not fetch a high price, if it's not a prestigious brand. But it is still a work of art and I will rock it.

**How can you figure out if a watch costs more than it says in a shop?**
You simply need to know the watches and being able to recognize the brands usually helps. But verifying if it's authentic or fake is also important. Just because you know the brand doesn't mean the piece you're about to drop a significant amount of cash on is the real deal. It's something you acquire over time, I suppose.

**What are you going to do with the extra money?**
With the extra funds I'm paying off some bills, fixing my truck, building a project truck and paying for my wedding! DMITRY BELYAEV, METRO WORLD NEWS

Visit us online at Metro.us/omg for more interviews.

**Question**

## Will you keep hunting for watches in the future?

I'm always on the hunt for a good watch. For me it's not for profit. It's a hobby. But in a situation like that it was above my means to wear a piece like that. So, unfortunately, I had to let it go. It went to a good guy, though.

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# Obesity. This should make you give up processed foods for good

Sugar, salt, ingredients you need a college degree to pronounce, let alone understand — there are a lot of reasons to eat fewer processed foods. But scientists just pinpointed a nearly universal ingredient that's in processed foods, and not others, as a major culprit in metabolic syndrome and inflammatory bowel diseases like Crohn's.

Emulsifiers, which are added for texture and to extend shelf life, are altering the microbiome in our gut, changing its composition and causing the migration of what are good bacteria in one area to where they're causing problems like intestinal inflammation.

Earlier studies have shown that even low-grade inflammation can cause overeating.

"The dramatic increase in these diseases has occurred despite consistent human genetics, suggesting a pivotal role for an environmental factor," says co-author Dr. Benoit Chassaing of Georgia State University.

Keep walking until you reach the produce aisle. / ISTOCK

A healthy microbiome in the human gut contains about 100 trillion bacteria, which are rarely found in the intestines. But when those bacteria end up there, they cause inflammation that can lead to debilitating diseases like ulcerative colitis and metabolic syndrome, an umbrella term for obesity-related disorders that can lead to Type 2 diabetes.

The researchers tested their theory by feeding mice two commonly used emulsifiers — polysorbate 80 and carboxymethylcellulose — in doses that resembled a typical diet. The genetically predisposed mice developed colitis, while mice with normal immune systems showed mild intestinal inflammation and symptoms of metabolic syndrome such as overeating, significant weight gain, high blood sugar and insulin resistance. EVA KIS


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## *Her dream job*

**Margot Robbie has taken on a lot of jobs as an actress — con artist, flight attendant, Wall Street trophy wife — but there's one occupational aspiration she's still holding onto:**

"I always have this weird ... not fascination, maybe aspiration? Kind of like a secret little dream to work in an office," Robbie tells Metro. "I hear about my friends having office jokes or an office scavenger hunt or office parties. It just sounds kind of fun." Nobody break her heart with the truth, OK?

# The real Margot Robbie

**Q&A.** The "Focus" starlet prefers youth hostels, thank you very much.

MARGOT ROBBIE PLAYS A CON ARTIST IN "FOCUS."
ALL PHOTOS FRANK MASI

Australian actress and "The Wolf of Wall Street" star Margot Robbie picked up some interesting new skills while making the con artist drama "Focus," including how to lift people's wallets. She also, as it turns out, prefers staying in hostels when on vacation, rather than boring, stodgy hotels.

**So you were on vacation in Croatia when you heard about your "Focus" audition?**
When I got the call, I was staying on the island of Hvar, and I was off that day to all the other islands — the Blue Cave, the Green Cave. It's insane. It's one of those hidden gems, but people are really catching onto it now so it's probably not going to be untouched for long.

**Considering how busy you are and how much your profile is rising, shouldn't you have graduated to regular hotels by now?**
Yeah, everyone's like, "How do you still do that?" I don't know, I've just kept doing it and it's not been a problem, weirdly enough. I stayed at a hostel in Ireland earlier this year while I was shooting "Tarzan," and it was fine.

**You know you don't have to, right?**
Yeah, but it's way more fun, though. You meet so many people in a hostel. When you're in a hotel, things don't really happen, you know? When you stay in a hostel, you just get taken off on tangents. You wake up and suddenly someone from Belgium is sleeping in the bed next to you, and they tell you about a part of town you never would've discovered sitting in your hotel room. Plus, it's like $20 a night for a really nice hostel room. It's such a bargain. And I know I can probably afford to stay in hotels now, but I can't get this ingrained notion of saving money out of my head. I can't justify wasting money; I just can't.

**There are so many great movies about con artists.**
I guess, for both actors choosing to play those roles and people watching the films, it's living vicariously through someone else and doing things you can't do in your own life.

**But then pickpocketing in movies is so much sexier than in real life.**
In the real-world pickpocketing, you get a whole bunch of junk and then you've got to find a way to sell it. Once you actually sell it, you're left with no money. There are no rich pickpockets. You're basically Oliver Twist. And he wore rags.

**But, his friend wore a top hat.**
Yeah, he was a baller.

NED EHRBAR
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**Bonus question**

**Apollo Robbins, your sleight-of-hand consultant, says you were the best pickpocketing student among the cast. Do you think you could still pull it off?**

When I was training, I definitely could've pulled it off — not to toot my own horn — but even when I was super slick at it, having the confidence to do the pulls was the hardest part, and I just don't have the balls for it. I could definitely steal from someone right now if I didn't have to engage with them. If they were, like, eating and I could take something out of their bag, or if they're walking in the street, I could probably take their wallet or phone out of their back pocket. But the inner breast pocket, front pockets, I'd be too scared to do now.

## **The star.** How about some quirky, context-free Will Smith quotes?

Will Smith's son, Jaden, has become renowned for his off-the-wall proclamations, whether on Twitter or in interviews. But as it turns out, the apple doesn't far fall from the tree. So we're going to the source for some pure, uncut Smith family wisdom, from the "Focus" presser.

*"This is one of the first times, in my career, where it was full-on, steamy, grown man-ness, and emotion."*

*"Reality almost does not matter at all. When you're talking to a person, it only matters what they are perceiving."*

*"I no longer measure the quality of my self on whether or not somebody else thinks what I paint is beautiful."*

*"You only need them to perceive you as a loving husband. You don't necessarily need to be one."*

*"I completely released the concept of goal orientation and got into path orientation."*

*"It's actually nerve-wracking for me, sometimes, to walk into a new space."*

*"I did some stuff [as a kid]. There just wasn't no Twitter back then."*

*"Everybody is running a con. We choose our clothes. We do our hair. Everyone wants to be perceived a certain way, to gain the things that they have decided are the things that they want in their life."*

*"Lying and loving don't go together."*

*"Everything is a con."*

NED EHRBAR

Will Smith lords over the grifting comedy "Focus." / WARNER BROS.

# Donald Glover has dimensions, man

**Interview.** The "Lazarus Effect" star and Childish Gambino rapper likes to keep fans confused.

Donald Glover is a scientist in "The Lazarus Effect." / SUZANNE HANOVER

Donald Glover doesn't like to be pigeonholed. In fact, he's crafting his career specifically to keep you guessing. His latest move? Starring alongside Olivia Wilde and Mark Duplass in "The Lazarus Effect," a thriller from the leading producer of economically minded horror, Jason Blum ("Paranormal Activity").

**When you meet someone like Jason Blum, what do you pick his brain about?**
To be real, I just like to observe a lot more just because you learn more. I feel like people put things on questions a little bit, like what is this person trying to get from me? So I just watched, and he's a real creative. He's a good decision-maker, and he really understands what makes something intrinsically watchable. And he fights for the creatives, which is cool.

**Have you been wanting to do this type of movie for a while?**
Yeah. I think a lot of people just would have expected me to do a bunch of indie films, which is cool, and I like that stuff, and I have a lot of friends who do indie films. But I was like, you know, let's go for a hard genre film. It was kind of the opposite of everything. I always try to make people not see me one way. I feel like once that happens, you're boxed in and you can't really explore anything else. Not to say that's bad — that's good for somebody who's into that. But not for me.

**So since there's going to be a new Spider-Man, have you heard any more of the campaigning to get you for the role?**
Of course it would be a great honor to play Spider-Man, but I'm always like, what's best for the movie? I'm really excited for Marvel. They make good s—. Obviously, with "Captain America," I know [the Russo brothers] care about their product, and I just want the product to be good.

**But you have to appreciate that kind of vote of confidence from fans online.**
Oh, yeah. But I also appreciate people being like, "He would be a horrible choice." No, seriously, I really do appreciate that.

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## Alter ego

**Since you have so many different things going on, do you find you run into fans who only really know one thing, like Childish Gambino or "Community"?**
People don't really use confusion like they should. Life is confusing. [Laughs] I'm not linear, and also I don't find it interesting when actors or celebrities are one thing, like one-dimensional. I want people to have a discussion about it. The honest truth is, if you want me to be one-dimensional, it's super easy to do that. Clay Aiken could be the biggest star in the world on your time line if you only follow that s—. If people want to feel certain ways about me or see me a certain way, they totally are open to. But I'm a Libra; there's always another side.

**You can't really control other people's perceptions, though.**
You can't, really. It's not really up to you. But if somebody else runs into them like, "Oh yeah, I love him," then they have to do more research. I'm always trying to make people do more, think more. I don't want to get too deep into this kind of stuff, but I just care a lot about that kind of stuff, so I try to make people do a little work.

**How dare you.**
I know, I know. [Laughs]

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# Will Forte outlives us all

**Interview.** The comedian plays the only survivor of a catastrophic event on his new show.

Will Forte stars in the very high-concept "The Last Man on Earth," a new comedy that's basically what it sounds like. His Phil Miller is the only man left on the planet, and the series has fun with the ways Phil passes his time, from bowling over a stack of filled aquariums to mocking Wilson from "Cast Away," before desperately creating his own group of named ball friends. We talked to Forte at a party, where we were joined by one of his co-stars.

**Were you nervous about being the only character?**
That was very exciting, to think about that. What we had to do was get Fox on board with that. They claimed from the beginning that they were OK with that, and we were skeptical, and they lived up to their word and they were great. They let us do the show we wanted to do, and it was very exciting. We wanted to do something that was a little different, and that was by design, and they have been so wonderfully supportive.

WILL FORTE
JIM SMEAL, BEIMAGES

Catch Forte (and his ball friends) in the one-hour premiere "The Last Man on Earth," this Sunday at 9 p.m. on Fox. / JORDIN ALTHAUS, FOX

**How did you come up with what Phil was going to do with all that free time?**
It was a lot of just figuring out with the writers what we would do in that situation and a lot of our own wish fulfillment, so that was a really fun part of the process.

**I heard you were the one who came up with all the ball names.**
I named the balls, and I drew the faces on the balls because I'm a control freak.

**Do you get to shave the big hermit beard between seasons?**
Yes, absolutely.

**Is it hot to film in the desert with the beard?**
The beard was never a huge problem except for eating. Eating was a huge pain in the butt.

LISA WEIDENFELD
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**Party talk**

## An interruption

Toward the end of our conversation, "Mad Men" star January Jones joined us. She'll be appearing on the show.

**Who do you play?**
**January Jones:** I play Betty Draper Francis.
**Forte:** She might be a dream sequence or a flashback. We're keeping some mysteries in the show. It's exciting because the show goes in a bunch of twisty-turny areas.
**Jones:** He can't say anything.

**The show is an enigma!**
**Jones:** With everything in the media being so open and everything in your face, it's nice to have something kept secret, right?
**Forte:** The media so far has been helping us keep the secrets, and it's great. But she's a vital or non-vital part of the show.
**Jones:** I concur.

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Review

## 'A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night'

Sheila Vand plays a chador-clad Iranian vampire ready to chomp down in "A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night." / KINO LORBER

In an Iranian ghost town called Bad City, a mysterious woman (Sheila Vand) clad in a chador wanders around, sucking the necks of various sexist and abusive men.

**The lowdown:** "A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night" is more than just an Iranian feminist vampire Western romance. It has fatty chunks of David Lynch in it, along with Sergio Leone, Jim Jarmusch and probably some Bela Tarr too, plus a Nicolas Winding Refn-like love for '80s synthpop. It's derivative of so many things that of course it's original. That's not a glib line: Like Quentin Tarantino, first-time feature director Ana Lily Amirpour knows that picking the right ingredients makes for a unique and scrumptious stew.

Like "Eraserhead," it tends to move at a glacial pace, characters often standing in beautifully lit tableaux; when they move, it's in super slow-mo. This is a film as much for genre fanboys as glacial cinema devotees. Amirpour avoids a lot of rookie mistakes, but she can be a tad too modest. The token love story still feels pat, as though she shoehorned it in just to add time. It'll be interesting when Amirpour feels confident to follow her emotions as bravely as she does her influences. MP

Review

## 'Zero Motivation'

DANA IVGY STARTS HER STAPLER ASSAULT IN THE ISRAELI ARMY OFFICE DRONE COMEDY "ZERO MOTIVATION." ZEITGEIST FILMS

Divided into three parts, this comedy takes a look at young women doing their mandatory stint in the Israeli army. But instead of fighting, they spend all of their time doing boring office work and getting involved in drama and stapler wars.

**The lowdown:** Despite being set amongst the Israeli Defense Forces, there's zero politics in "Zero Motivation." As in "MASH," the characters watch as war barely penetrates their bubble of unceasing boredom. Instead, they play Minesweeper, create childlike games and deal with their flustered, power-mad superiors, who invent mundane tasks to just barely instill order.

First-time feature director Talya Lavie likes to jam-pack her stories with nutty, left-field twists, and she isn't afraid to mess with tone. Every now and then, though, a deeper melancholy peeks through the simple tedium of dumb chores and coffee fetches. The characters are mere cogs caught up in a tedious circle. MP

"Red Army" profiles the Soviet Union's storied Cold War-era hockey outfit. / SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

# Sports documentary. Root for the Soviets over the evil Americans in the ice hockey saga 'Red Army'

Review

'Red Army'

**Director:** Gabe Polsky

**Genre:** Documentary

**Rating:** PG

The storied "Miracle on Ice" — when America's Olympic hockey team pulled a David on the Goliath that was the USSR's notoriously with-it unit — gets told from the other side, focusing on the Soviets who kept their country on top, at least on the ice, for decades.

**The lowdown:** You may have seen this tale before, only from the Yank side. The 2004 inspirational sports weepie "Miracle," starring Kurt Russell as the U.S. team's barking coach, dug up old-fashioned Cold War hatred for those godless Russkies while dosing viewers with some old-school mega-patriotism. Thing is, the Soviet side is actually both more moving and more inspiring. Their big, shocking loss in 1980 comes fairly early into "Red Army," which uses the language of revved-up, emotional sports documentary cinema, but for a foreign power. Director Gabe Polsky structures it as a rise-and-fall-and-rise-again tale, and a tall one: A good reason the Soviet hockey team was so mighty is because their players were trained since childhood. They're like the Spartans in "300," only with better checking.

The USSR team's dominance over the sport was long and mighty, but it couldn't last: Once the Soviet Union crumbled, players' lives went all over the place. Some were scooped up by their former Western rivals and had to fight deep-seated prejudice by Americans and Canadians raised to hate the Soviets. Others were stuck in the rubble of a collapsed empire, awaiting endless negotiations if not tortured by the state police. What starts larger than life eventually turns sad and tragic, like any good manipulative melodrama. But it's a sly film, one that puts us firmly on the side of America's former enemy, getting us to root for athletes not out of nationalism but for a more base reason: because they kicked ass. MATT PRIGGE

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# Con movie. Will Smith lets Margot Robbie steal the new 'Focus' right from under him

Will Smith plays a seasoned confidence man who takes under his wing a hopeless amateur (Margot Robbie). But is he scamming her? Or is he actually in love?

Will Smith isn't having as much fun as Margot Robbie in "Focus." / WARNER BROTHERS

**Review**

'Focus'

**Directors:** Glenn Ficarra, John Requa

**Stars:** Will Smith, Margot Robbie

**Rating:** R

●●●○○

**The lowdown:** Much like the submarine picture, the con artist movie is one of those genres that filmmakers screw up only if they're trying to screw it up. "Focus" is more ambitious. It aspires to the likes of the grotesquely underrated Julia Roberts-Clive Owen-starring "Duplicity": a con movie in which professional liars fall for each other and only wind up wondering if they really can love at all. That may sound soapy, but in this profession, it plays like existential dread — a job that by definition requires eternal loneliness.

"Focus" doesn't get as far as "Duplicity." It's much too sloppy, especially in its middle section, to do the complex thing it wants to do. It even peaks early, with a set piece that begins unassumingly then slowly, confidently steps things up, increment by increment, until viewers' nerves are shattered.

Still, it's hard to screw up a con movie, and filmmakers Glenn Ficarra and Jon Requa ("I Love You Philip Morris") know a thing or two about long cons. There are some doozies where the reveal, if not the build-up itself, is hugely pleasurable. Even the notion that our two leads don't have sparkling chemistry winds up making a kind of sense. Smith is aiming for Golden Age movie-star charisma, but he's too laid-back, especially for the pepped-up, kooky Robbie. Instead of coasting on a shared wavelength, he lets her have the movie. And she happily takes it. **MATT PRIGGE**

**Review**

## 'The Lazarus Effect'

●●○○○

A low-budget horror number boasting such unlikely cast members as Mark Duplass and Donald Glover — not to mention an actually well-used Olivia Wilde — is all but setting itself up for disappointment. Even considering that, it's almost impressive how dumb and rote "The Lazarus Effect" becomes. Concerning scientists who wind up using their experimental resuscitating serum on one of their own (Wilde) after she dies, it goes from promisingly smart to full-on stupid once Wilde has turned into a mere monster. It's beneath anonymous hackwork, as most careless studio chillers — say, last year's "Ouija" — would know better than to kill the black guy first.

At its heart, this is an exploration of grief and delusion, with Duplass' character throwing caution and logic to the wind to ease his sorrows. But this idea is quickly abandoned. At least Wilde is trying. An actress regularly called on to do far less than she can, she at least gets a chance to show off her range, going from believable, complex person to anonymous boogeyperson. She deserves better. **MP**

Olivia Wilde goes to the dark side in "The Lazarus Effect." / RELATIVITY MEDIA


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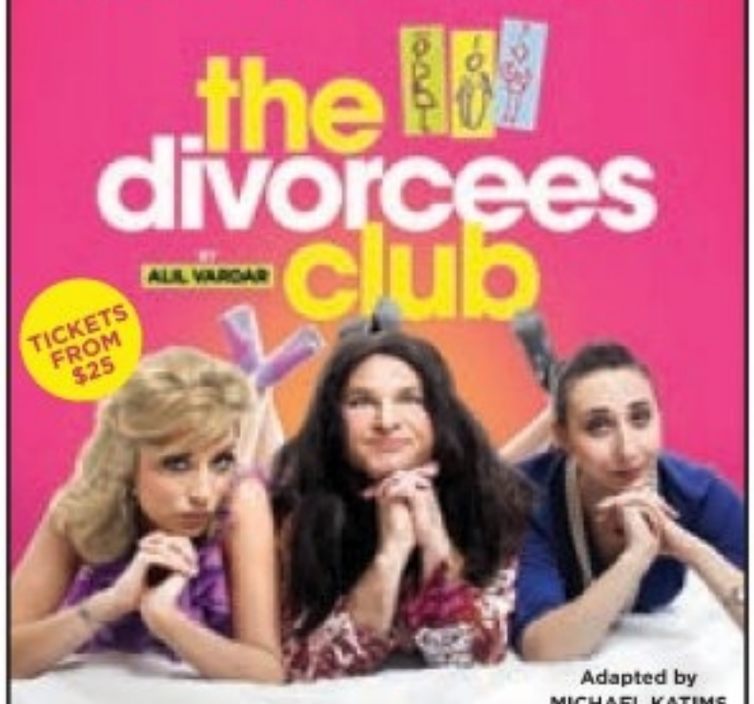

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# Andy Samberg likes his job

**Interview.** The "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" star says he owes a lot to the show's great writers.

Catch "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" this Sunday at 8:30 p.m. on Fox to figure out what the heck Peralta and Santiago are doing here. / EDDY CHEN, FOX

Jake Peralta is one of those heroes where it's just as funny to see him fail as it is to see him succeed. As played by Andy Samberg on "Brooklyn Nine-Nine," Peralta is a cocky, competent cop, who also seems to have the diet and lifestyle of a child. He's had a few heartbreaks this year, what with quickly falling in love with a defense attorney (Eva Longoria), only to have her leave him a few episodes later, but he always seems to land on his feet. We talked to Samberg about life as Brooklyn's best (at least in his mind) cop.

**Jake has incredibly detailed backstories for the personas he takes on for undercover work. Do you invent any of those, or does that all come out of the writers room?**
Writers room. They're really good, man. They write things in a way that it would seem like we were making it up because it feels really spontaneous and creative and insane, but it's better than that. It makes us all look like we're really cool and smart, but we're not. They are.

**Is there much improvisation on the show generally?**
Every now and again I'll come up with a really intricate zinger on set and work it into the show, but I have full faith in our writing team. They're incredible.

**What's been your favorite case on the show?**
Probably Pontiac Bandit. It's not fair because it's been twice already, but I've just loved how those episodes have come out. I really, really love the dynamic between Craig Robinson's character and Jake, the sort of push and pull of hating a guy and wanting to be him while also begrudgingly really loving him and thinking that in another life they'd be friends. They really do enjoy a lot of the same things. They're just on opposite sides of the law.

**Well, and Jake would be sad if he ever ended up in jail, right?**
I think if he did get put in jail, there's a part of Jake that would be a little sad. It's like if Batman ever truly got the Joker.

**Have you talked to the show's creators much about Jake's future?**
Me and Dan [Goor] and Mike [Schur] have those conversations, certainly. It usually consists of them going, "You know, we're thinking this could be this," and I go, "That sounds great, you guys are really smart, thank you for putting me in your show."

LISA WEIDENFELD
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Co-stars

## Andre Braugher, comedy champ

**The cast has such a strong ensemble, but most of you guys come from comedy backgrounds. When did you realize Andre Braugher, who had been known for drama, could be such a funny guy?**
It was the first line of the first table read. And the whole room just died laughing, and we were like, oh, this is handled, that's done.

**He's so good at deadpan.**
He's born to play that part. He's such a seasoned brilliant actor. He brings such a different element to what could be a really one-note performance, but is not. There's nuance to his deadpan, there's humanity to his deadpan. He can do no wrong right now. It's really exciting to watch.

**Is he at all like his character?**
He's got everyone fooled. They all think he's a stone wall, but he's actually just a sweetheart.

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**TV watch list**

On "The Good Wife," Ed Asner guest stars as a big campaign donor, but you may know him as Mr. Fredrickson from the cutest/saddest movie ever, "Up." / CBS

COMEDY

### 'Saturday Night Live'

"Fifty Shades of Grey" star Dakota Johnson steps in to host this week, meaning you can expect at least one uncomfortable parody of the movie.

**SATURDAY, 11:30 P.M., NBC**

DRAMA

### 'The Good Wife'

Alicia and Frank Prady vie for the same big campaign donation, while Diane and Cary work on a case for Colin Sweeney (Dylan Baker), who says an unflattering TV character is based on him. **SUNDAY, 9 P.M., CBS**

DRAMA

### 'Downton Abbey'

In a very "Downton" plotline, the family goes to a shooting party hosted by Lord Sinderby in Northumberland. Just what you're doing with your weekend, right? **SEASON FINALE, SUNDAY, 9 P.M., PBS LISA WEIDENFELD**

# Yelp picks. Neighborhood spotlight: East Passyunk

It can't be stopped! East Passyunk continues to spice up its already delicious restaurant scene every time we check in. If you haven't strolled through this part of South Philly lately, you're missing out. There's more to life than rival cheesesteak spots and classic Italian eateries!

Yelper Alexis S. likes the pizza at Brigantessa. / YELP

## Noord

**1046 E. Tasker St.**

My most recent visit included the bitterballen, which are the best meatballs I've ever had. We also tried the smorrebrod, which was a delicious smoked fish and sandwich board that changes daily. **Dan S.**

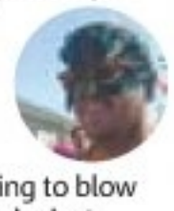
## Brigantessa

**1520 E. Passyunk Ave.**

We ordered the Stella pizza and it was unreal... I have been a huge fan of Nomad over the past few years, but this pizza takes its place as number one in Philadelphia. **Sara B.**

## Laurel

**1617 E. Passyunk Ave.**



Don't go in here looking for bold 'New American' flavors. They're not trying to blow your mind, they're just perfectly executing exquisite food. Oh, and bring your beautiful food wines with you. Splurge. Make it a magical evening. **ADAM W.**

## Stateside

**1536 E. Passyunk Ave.**

I highly recommend a flight of whiskeys for tasting. The bartenders were fun and knowledgeable, but I'd have to say the pork belly dish stole the night! Fantastic and perfect to pair with endless libations! **MICHAEL H.**

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Real-world love advice

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Charles J. Orlando is a relationship expert and author of the best-selling book series "The Problem with Women ... Is Men." Find out more about him on his website, or visit him on Facebook for real-world love advice.

# Spice up your weekend with lingerie

Many couples start strong in the romance department: frequent sex, spontaneity, candlelight. Then, things might shift. Maybe they have a child, or someone's career gets moving, or priorities shift. Things enter a place of comfort and complacency — two killers of a romantic relationship.

Fortunately there's a relatively inexpensive cure for the relationship blues: lingerie.

In truth, lingerie is one of the most inexpensive — and often overlooked — ways of rekindling romance in the bedroom, for both men and women.

Bras and G-strings, teddies and baby dolls, negligees, corsets and bustiers, and cosplay/roleplay clothing ... lingerie can take on many meanings. From sexy to risque to kinky — it is completely based on the wants/needs of the couple.

But for men, the reasons range from primal to romantic. For some, feeling like she did something especially for him can be flattering, and lingerie offers him a glimpse (and only a teasing glimpse) of the woman he loves as only he sees her.

But it's not just men who get a positive charge out of lingerie. As I've stated many times: Women are women first, and wives/mothers/girlfriends second — and they want to keep and be seen for their femininity up-front-and-center — not as an afterthought. Some women wear something sexy under their everyday clothes to feel sexy throughout the day (as do some men ... but that's a subject for a different article). According to the women I've surveyed (500-plus as of the time of this writing), it not only gives them more confidence, they feel more empowered.

Keep in mind, though, that lingerie can only serve as an extension of a couple's sex life. If someone comes home with a gift you're not into, you might need to guide things a little bit. You have to make sure your tastes match. (Example: Erotic is using a feather. Kinky is using the whole chicken.)

Make sure you research her size ahead of time. Trust us. / ISTOCK

For exclusive commentary, visit **Metro.us/blogs.**

**Quoted**

**"Lingerie is one of the most inexpensive —and often overlooked—ways of rekindling romance in the bedroom, for both men and women."**

**Real-world tips**

- **For the guys:** Flowers are sweet, but they are temporary. Candy is great, but the calories are a killer. Instead, head over to your local Victoria's Secret. Ask for help if you need it.
- **For the ladies:** Head to the lingerie store and text your guy pictures from the dressing room. Then he'll get a sense of what you want, and you'll start up the anticipation for later that evening, as well.
- **For the single ladies:** Go shopping. Get yourself something sexy and provocative. Just because you don't have someone to show it to currently doesn't mean you don't deserve lacy undergarments.

GREG MARINO

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# Someone stole that awesome Lupita Nyong'o Oscars dress

This is just terrible. Remember that ridiculously pretty dress Lupita Nyong'o wore to the Oscars last weekend? The one made from more than 6,000 Akoya pearls? Well, according to TMZ, someone broke into her hotel room at the London in West Hollywood on Tuesday and stole it. Yes, just walked out of the hotel with it. The gown, by Calvin Klein Collection, is said to be worth about $150,000. Police are currently investigating, and there is said to be security footage of the crime as it happened. Hopefully designers won't hold this incident against Nyong'o, who has become something of a red carpet fashion plate since she came on the scene for "12 Years a Slave," as that's a trend that should totally continue.

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# THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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# Robin Thicke gives very entertaining testimony

I've heard of witnesses doing a song and dance on the stand, but this is ridiculous. (It's funnier if you read it in a Groucho Marx voice, I swear.) But anyway: Robin Thicke was in court this week to defend himself against claims by Marvin Gaye's family that "Blurred Lines" is a total rip-off of the Gaye classic "Gotta Give it Up." And during his testimony, he apparently decided it was better to show than to tell. Thicke propped up a keyboard on the witness stand and worked through a medley of songs by U2, Bob Marley, Alphaville and Michael Jackson to prove how similar some pop songs can sound. He also confirmed that he was "high and drunk" during just about every interview he did last year, so he totally can't be held accountable for whatever he told the press, OK?

Here's a re-enactment of his musical testimony.

# Rihanna planned this Leo DiCaprio romance way back when

So this rumored burgeoning romance between Rihanna and Leonardo DiCaprio? Apparently Rihanna's had designs on him for a while. "Rihanna said that Leonardo is her childhood crush. She said that she's wanted him since she was a teenager," a source tells Radar Online. "She is actually really, really into him." To be fair, though, Rihanna was a teenager, like, seven or eight years ago. I'm guessing it was "The Aviator" that really got her going.



Daily video

## Mary Poppins sings death metal

This will wake you up. Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke get a death-metal makeover in this hair-raising rendition of "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." And yes, sure, the sound of it is probably something quite atrocious to some listeners, but I'm just going to sit here and soak in the awesomeness. And giggle.

ANDY REHFELDT, YOUTUBE

# 'Fifty Shades of Grey' not doing it for Ice-T

You mean to tell me Ice-T wasn't that impressed with the raunchiness of "Fifty Shades of Grey"? Apparently so. The rapper and "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit" star even goes so far as to say the movie "could've been on Nickelodeon." Ouch. (And not the fun kind of ouch.) "I went to see it with Coco. Coco read the books, and she said they were boring. She didn't make me go, I wanted to see what all the women were talking about," he tells Jimmy Fallon during an interview. "It just kept building up. And I'm like, 'What's gonna happen? What's gonna happen?' And she told me that's just how the books are. It's kinda like 'Lost,' where you think something's gonna happen, and you keep watching it."

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Letters to the editor

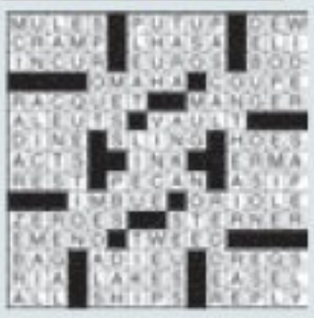
## *Exchange immigrants for gas line*

**Re: 'Keystone won't create jobs' (Metro, Feb. 26)** Whenever the subject of allowing the Keystone pipeline to go forward is mentioned, one can expect some hysterical environmental objection in spite of the fact that it would create many jobs, help both the Canadian economy and energy security in the U.S. and is supported by a majority of Americans. I think Obama and the Republicans should do some horse trading: Allow Keystone to go forward and in exchange Republicans will allow Obama to have the temporary suspension of deportations he wants.
GEORGE CHRISTIAN JR.

## *Bad policy*

President Obama's decision to reform America by pulling the U.S. off the world stage as a leader and a beacon of freedom in a world of dictatorships and fanatics is proving to be a mistake of grave proportions: The ISIS expansion and murders continue. Putin is imposing his will on Ukraine, which will be part of Russia when Putin decides the apple is ripe for picking. The turmoil in Africa increases with Boko Haram's slaughtering of Muslims and Christians. The collapse of Yemen, Libya and Syria mean all have become havens for terrorists. Obama's policy of retreat and disengagement will leave the U.S. and the world much worse off.
JOHN MCLAUGHLIN

Thursday's answer



# MY BAD: THE DC CONFESSIONAL

Opinion

TOM FOREMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR CNN

Break out the hair shirts, heat up the tar, and dust off the pillory. D.C. is going through one of its periods of confession and contrition that make Maury's "Who's the daddy?" show look like an afternoon of cribbage.

As the center of the news universe, this town has an insatiable appetite for weighing in on matters of public humiliation, so it is buzzing over the scandals involving false … or possibly false … statements by news people and the head of the Veterans Administration.

Never mind that this place has raised misstatement, half-truth, and deception to an art form. Dali's wristwatch is more straightforward than the "facts" some folks twist out here.

Still, now and then, someone stumbles in such a public way, the town feels the need to purge.

Every press conference is suddenly filled with qualifiers: "When I said I went to see the riot, what I meant is I walked over to the TV." Each grandiose claim becomes slightly muted, "Of course I saved Hoover Dam! In a metaphorical sense."

So let me clarify a few things about my own biography.

When I previously said I was shot down during Vietnam, I meant was that the war was underway when I asked Bonnie Fair to the seventh-grade dance, and she unceremoniously said no. So I was both shot down, and wounded.

When I listed "presidential advisor" on my résumé, I meant that I told the head of my 4-H club to avoid wearing white shoes on barn cleaning day. I thought everyone understood this, but I feel I should now make it plain; just as, at the time, I had to clear up that statement, "Boy, I like mutton!"

And I readily admit I misspoke once to a newspaper reporter. I intended to say, "Will you look at the time?" but instead said, "I invented the polio vaccine."

I know this airing of old laundry is rather tedious. But relax. It doesn't last. Give it some weeks and D.C. will be back to normal. After all, the truth has never been that popular here.

CNN=POLITICS

Sudoku: Easy and hard

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | | 7 | | | | | 8 | |
| | | | | 9 | | 7 | | 4 |
| | 6 | | 7 | | | | 3 | 5 |
| 1 | | | | | 9 | 8 | | |
| | | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 | | |
| | | 5 | 8 | | | | | 2 |
| 2 | 9 | | | | 7 | | 4 | |
| 6 | | 1 | | 2 | | | | |
| | 4 | | | | | 9 | | 1 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 4 | 7 | | | | | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | | | 5 | | | 3 | 6 |
| | | | | | 8 | 9 | | |
| 1 | 8 | | | | 5 | | | |
| 4 | | 5 | | | | 3 | | 7 |
| | | | 9 | | | | 8 | 1 |
| | | 1 | 5 | | | | | |
| 3 | 2 | | | 1 | | | 7 | 5 |
| 7 | | | | | 2 | 1 | | |

**How to play**
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Horoscope

**♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20**
A preoccupation with professional responsibilities will take its toll on an important relationship. Friction is likely unless you make a focused effort to nurture what you've got.

**♈ Aries | March 21-April 20**
An expensive vacation will lead to debt. However, you can add a spark to your day with a congenial gathering of friends. You don't need cash to have a good time.

**♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21**
Beneficial changes can be made if you join forces with like-minded people. Superiors will be receptive to your ideas if you present facts and offer solutions.

**♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20**
Don't be afraid to ask for help if you are feeling drained or disappointed about a personal issue. Look to a trusted friend for his or her perspective.

**♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22**
You'll experience a low-energy cycle. You can improve your mood by getting involved in activities or hobbies that bring you joy and a sense of accomplishment.

**♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22**
You need to take better care of yourself. You cannot be at your best if you give in to overindulgence. Use your imagination and envision a healthier and happier you.

**♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22**
You will be disappointed by someone who reneges on a promise. In order to meet a deadline, put in extra hours. You will receive full credit for your efforts.

**♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22**
Don't be too hard on yourself. You have the intelligence and intuition to succeed. Trust in your abilities is more important than the opinions of others.

**♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21** You'll face a minor disagreement. Do your best to keep the peace by making concessions and sharing household responsibilities. Being flexible will spare you grief and improve the outcome.

**♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21** You need to remain open to innovative ideas and educational opportunities. Positive changes are possible if you branch out and refuse to settle for less when you can have more.

**♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20** Your sense of humor and quick wit will lead to greater popularity. Others will be startled to see how entertaining you can be. Laughter will do you good.

**♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18** Don't hold back when it comes to sharing your creativity. Lucrative gains are imminent if you attract the attention of intellectual allies. EUGENIA LAST

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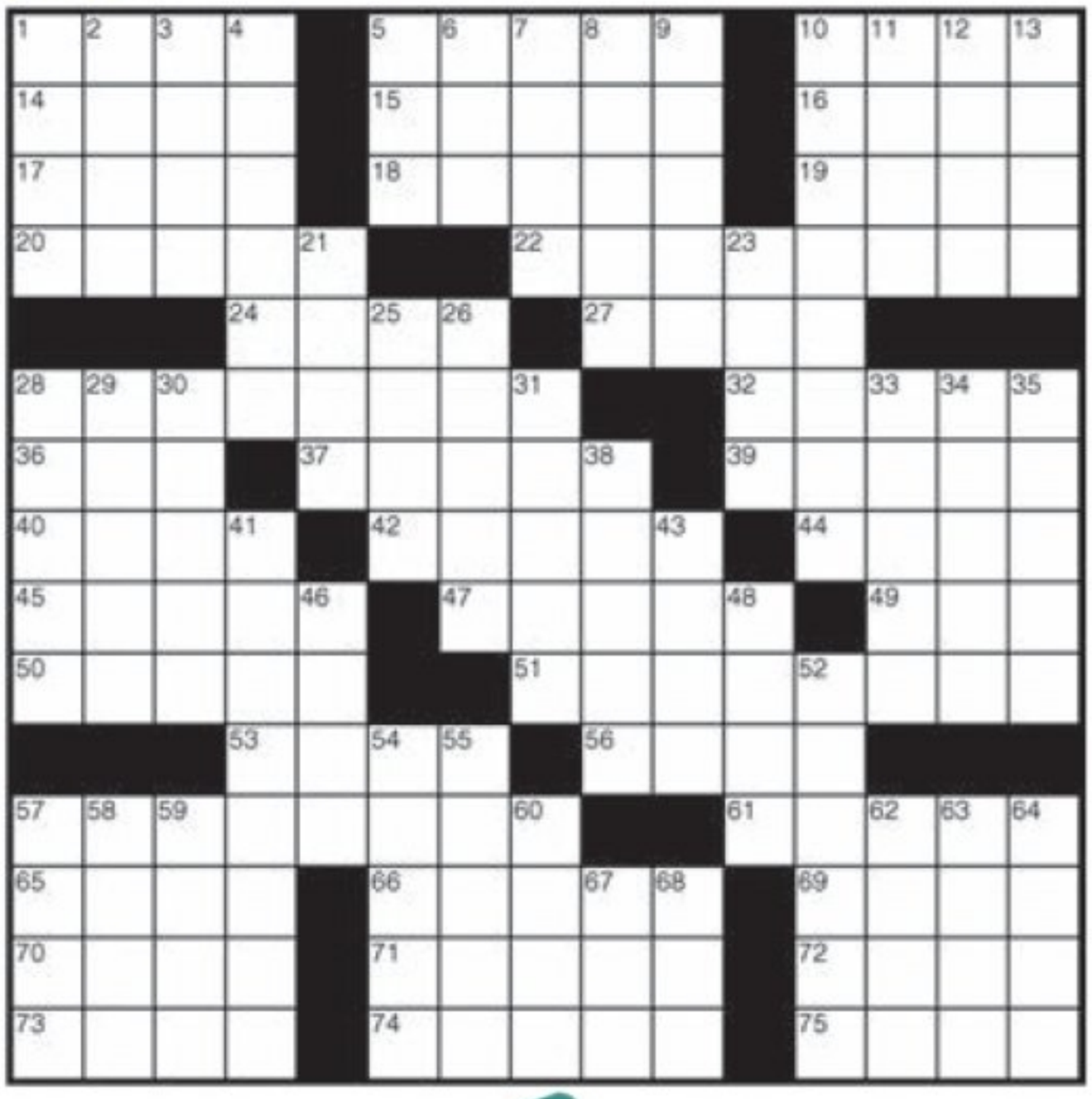

### Across

1 Microbiology gel
5 Unpaid
10 Meatloaf serving
14 High Asian desert
15 Less
16 Ice-fishing need
17 Burglar's take
18 Kid or rib
19 Reed instrument
20 Top story
22 Eliminate (2 wds.)
24 Collars
27 Rabbit dish
28 Aussie hopper
32 Former frosh
36 Brady bill opposer
37 Lowest ebb
39 Traffic indicator
40 Dumpster output
42 Ocean, in Mongolian
44 Genial
45 Turns up
47 Minority groups
49 Belly dance instrument
50 Tiny shrimp
51 Way out
53 Vast ages
56 Thick carpeting
57 Took a poll
61 Cellist — Casals
65 "Watermark" chanteuse
66 Magna cum –
69 Roulette color
70 TV genie portrayer
71 Earthenware pots
72 Well-behaved kid
73 Battery terminal
74 "Bye Bye Bye" band
75 Pretentious

### Down

1 Turkish official
2 Zodiac animal
3 Just touch
4 Ticking off
5 Over and over
6 Itty-bitty
7 "— — framed!"
8 Twig-and-mud homes
9 "— Balls of Fire"
10 Ready for discount
11 Gray wolf
12 Slugger Moises —
13 Root vegetable
21 "Slither" actor
23 Butte cousin
25 Headless nail
26 Soft drinks
28 Engine noise
29 Intense feeling
30 Model – Campbell
31 Edmonton puckster
33 Title below abbot
34 Conjurer's first word?
35 Nobel or Garbo
38 5K and 10K
41 To the point
43 Have poison ivy
46 Wild plum
48 Motel freebie
52 African nation
54 Parachute material
55 Closes tightly
57 Flow slowly
58 Loosen
59 Blended whiskeys
60 As expected
62 Rude person
63 Cheerful tune
64 Paris hub
67 Aykroyd or Rather
68 PC key


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SPORTS

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## *76ers return home to face D.C.*

**The Wizards come to town Friday to offer yet another tough test for the depleted Sixers. Point Guard Isaiah Canaan will be at the helm once again for the struggling Philly offense against one of the top teams in the East. Tip off is at 7 p.m. on CSN.**

# Eagles expected to seek help on offensive line

**NFL.** After dropping Todd Herremans, the Eagles now have an open starting spot on the offensive line.

Add offensive line — specifically offensive guard — to the list of needs for the Eagles as the offseason continues.

The Birds decided to cut ties with lineman Todd Herremans Thursday, a move that comes as a surprise to many but indicates Chip Kelly's desire to get younger up-front.

The 32-year-old missed the second half of the 2014 season after tearing a biceps muscle in Arizona.

The rest of the Eagles' offensive line is comprised of veterans, all of whom helped the Birds and their historically healthy and productive line in 2013 propel LeSean McCoy and the run game to a banner year. Jason Peters is 33 years old while Evan Mathis is 30.

One of Herremans' strengths was versatility, as he started at every position on the line during his nine-year career in Philly except for center.

Salary cap-wise, the Eagles will save $2.8 million against their salary cap for 2015 but will lose $2.4 million in dead money.

If no one is picked up to replace Herremans, Allen Barbre, who filled in admirably as the Eagles pieced together a make-shift line in 2014, would be the starter, but there will likely be some sort of roster acquisition made.

With the Eagles expected to work on their secondary in the draft, the offensive line could be their second-biggest area of need.

Free agency begins March 10, with the draft still awhile away at the end of April.

**By the numbers**

**124**

Games started as an Eagle for Todd Herremans. The longest-tenured player is Trent Cole, who has started 145 games for the Birds.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
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Herremans' departure means the Birds will likely seek a rookie or free agent offensive lineman. / GETTY IMAGES

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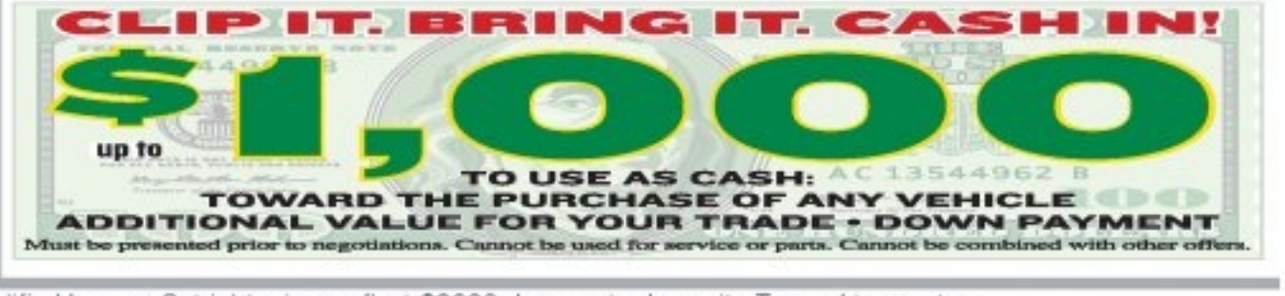
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# Flyers to get defensive reinforcements soon

**NHL.** Steve Mason and Kimmo Timonen are expected to be back on the ice Saturday.

**Homestand notes**

The Flyers return home for a three-game homestand against a trio of contenders.

- Saturday at 8 p.m. they host the Rangers on NBC.
- Tuesday at 7 p.m. on CSN
- Philly hosts the Flames.
- The Blues come to town Thursday at 7 p.m. on CSN.

Anyone who has watched the Flyers lately has noticed them make a few more turnovers than usual.

They've also, no doubt, seen Steve Mason and Ray Emery go down with injuries in recent weeks, hurting the Flyers' defense even more.

But good news is on the horizon, as the Flyers expect goalie Mason and veteran Kimmo Timonen to return to action Saturday night against the Rangers.

Philly is currently hanging onto hope that they can get in the playoffs as the eighth seed in the East. They are within striking distance of the Bruins but will need to be healthy and get a little bit lucky to compete down the stretch.

Timonen is nearly 40 years old and has fought back from blood clots, found this summer in his lungs, to return to playing shape.

"Every day is better, and I have to start playing games somewhere down the road," Timonen told reporters. "If it's Saturday, that's good. If it's not Saturday, then it's next week."

"It's a huge, huge step for me," he added.

To make room on the roster, Philly will likely send Carlo Colaiacovo down to the AHL. Mason underwent minor knee surgery back on February 10.

Philly has some tough competition to end the month and start March, and they'll certainly be happy with these two returns as the trade deadline approaches March 1. If Timonen and Mason perform, it will serve as if the team made a trade, without having to move any assets.

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# MONSTER TRADES CHANGED NBA'S FANTASY LANDSCAPE

There are a lot of non-sporting events in sports that are great, such as the NFL combine and free agency. The NBA's trade deadline is arguably the most fun. Last week's record-setter saw 37 players get moved, leaving owners' heads spinning. When the dizziness stopped, we had some guys get a serious boost in value:

## Jackson high-five

Unhappy and buried in Oklahoma City, savvy owners were stashing Reggie Jackson for his inevitable move toward greener pastures. He couldn't have landed in a much better spot than Detroit, as Stan Van Gundy encourages up-tempo play and likes aggressive point guards. Jackson is certainly that, as evidenced by his career averages of 15.9 points, 5.8 assists and 4.2 rebounds as a starter. With Brandon Jennings (Achilles) done for the year, R-Jax is going to return top-50 value.

Canaan could very well be the point guard of the future in Philadelphia.. / GETTY IMAGES

## Load the Canaan

The Sixers badly wanted Isaiah Canaan in the 2013 draft, but instead Sam Hinkie's mentor (Daryl Morey) snagged him one pick ahead of their spot in the second round. So Hinkie had to wait, but he got his man at the deadline by giving up a talented prospect in K.J. McDaniels. Canaan was not a throw-in — this is a player the franchise thinks can develop into a long-term asset. Most importantly for our purposes, Canaan is an excellent 3-point shooter (2.9 makes per 36 minutes in his NBA career). It's been a rocky start, but he's going to help owners significantly as a core piece that plays 30-35 minutes nightly for the Tankers.

## Galloping Gallo

The Nuggets are among the bigger train wrecks in the NBA. One thing they knew they wanted to do was move Arron Afflalo and go with a big starting lineup that featured Danilo Gallinari at the shooting guard spot. That's opened up plenty of room for the 6-foot-10 Italian to fire away from the land of trey, as he made eight of them in three games after the trade. When a player can dominate one category so profoundly, he can win weeks with ease. Head-to-head owners should be assembling playoff rosters with specialists like Gallo in their five "go-to" categories.

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**Pickups of the week**

**Top NBA adds:**

- **Aaron Brooks, PG, Bulls:** Brooks will have to share time with Kirk Hinrich, but there's room with Derrick Rose down again.
- **Ersan Ilyasova, PF, Bucks:** For now, Ersanity is in Jason Kidd's good graces and has a starting role locked up.
- **Terrence Jones, PF, Rockets:** Finally healthy again, Jones is a double-double waiting to happen. He'll keep starting even when Dwight Howard returns.

**NFL news**

**A look at what's new in Atlanta:**

- The star of the combine was West Virginia WR Kevin White, who smoked a 4.35 at 6'3/215 and benched 225 pounds 23 times putting himself in position to go in the top 5.

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# 10 Phillies spring training storylines to watch for

Spring training for the Phillies this season has a completely different feel than in years past. For the first time in the Citizens Bank Park era, the Phillies are not expected to contend. However, there are a number of high-priced pieces Ruben Amaro would like to move, and there are questions at a number of positions. It will be a fascinating spring, even with Freddy Galvis at shortstop.

Here's a brief look at the 10 storylines most interesting to us here at Metro.

ED CONDRAN
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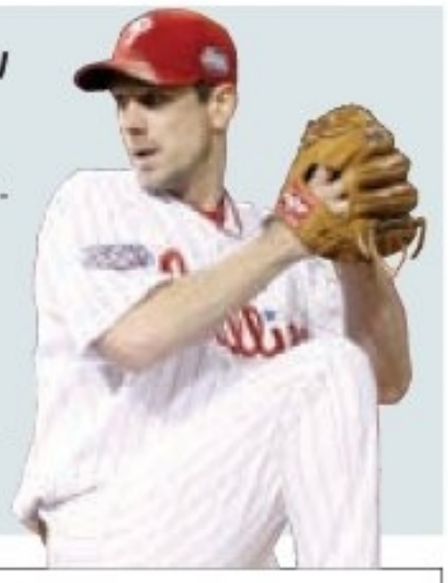
## 1 How long will Hamels remain a Phillie?

It's no secret how Hamels or Amaro feels. Each would like a trade. The former revealed that when he let loose with USA Today when he noted how grim this season will be for Ryne Sandberg's club. Since then, Hamels has taken a quick media relations class and said all of the right things. The Phillies ace, who is at the peak of his career, will be watched carefully by fans and scouts during the Grapefruit League run. Amaro would like a motherlode of talent for Hamels to help fuel the rebuild. Who can blame him?

It seems the drama may be slowing down between the Phillies and Hamels. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## 2 Cliff Lee's elbow



How effective will Lee be for a month? Scouts from contending teams that need an ace, the Red Sox and Padres, should be watching. If Lee is healthy and effective, don't expect him to be dealt until closer to the trade deadline.

## 3 Can Brown bounce back?

During spring training in 2013, Metro asked Charlie Manuel if Dom Brown could finally turn it on and have a monster season. Manuel said to count on it, and it happened. Manuel helped Brown put it together. The Phillies most enigmatic player since Jeff Stone lost it after Manuel was fired. Manuel stayed away in deference to Sandberg last season, but he's back. Will he help Brown reach his potential or will he continue to flounder?

## 4 How will Utley's body hold up?

Utley reported to camp with a sprained ankle, which supports his balky knees. Utley started 155 games last season. Will he be healthy enough to play 130 this year? Also, Utley had a terrible spring last year before magically turning it on opening day. What does Utley have left?

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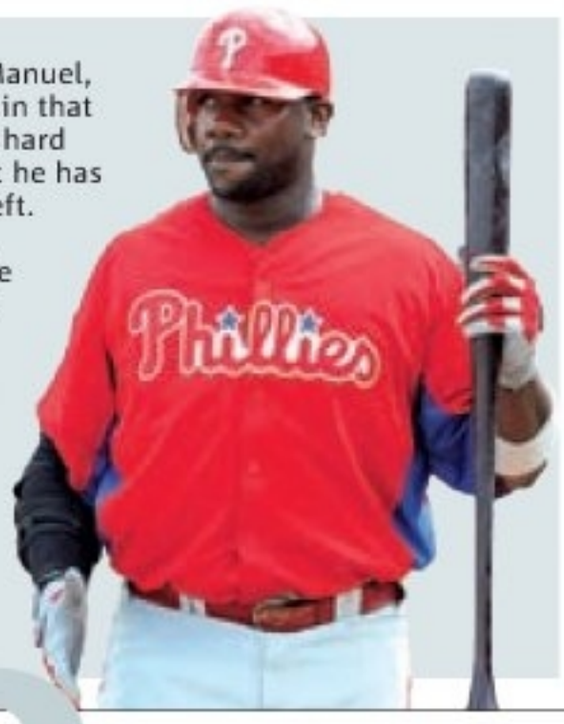
## 7 Will Howard ever return to form?

The Big Piece is about as proud as any Phillie. How will he bounce back from a disappointing 2014 season, and Amaro declaring that the Phillies would be better off without him this season?

It'll be curious to see if Howard has made some adjustments. He's working with his mentor Charlie Manuel, and it's certain that he will work hard to prove that he has something left.

But can Howard make adjustments for the first time in his career?

Will his lower body enable him to play even half-decently at first base?



## 6 What do the Phillies have in Harang?

Harang was one of the surprise stories of 2014. The massive, oft-injured hurler put it together for a solid season with Atlanta. Can he replicate that success and pitch well enough? Judging by the lack of interest in the offseason for Harang, most in baseball doubt it.

**Pat the bat**

## Burrell to be honored by Phillies

Former Phillies outfielder and slugger Pat Burrell will become the 37th person inducted onto the Phils' Wall of Fame this upcoming season.

He will be honored in a ceremony prior to a game vs. the Braves on July 31.

Burrell, a first-round pick by Philly, hit 20 or more homers in eight straight years, tallying 251 in his career in red pinstripes. He is fourth on the team's all-time homers list. METRO

## 8 Can Galvis even approach the Mendoza line?

Here's one for fans who had issues with Jimmy Rollins' batting average (career BA .267). Freddy Galvis will provide excellent defense. Expecting him to average .230 for a season would be a reach for a guy with a career BA at .218 in part-time duty. But could Galvis, who is remarkably only 25, surprise fans?

## 8 Can closer Papelbon behave?

Pap said all the right things during his press conference. But if things go awry, will he snap? Is he capable of delivering an obscene gesture? Sure. Is he capable of still being a better-than-average closer? We'll see. One thing seems clear, he will likely remain with the club after his best trade window — to Milwaukee — was closed as the Brewers re-signed Francisco Rodriguez to close.

## 9 Will Franco emerge as a big-league talent?

Everyone has the Phillies third baseman of the future ticketed back to the Lehigh Valley but Franco.

Don't be surprised if Franco, who hit the ball as hard as any Phillie last spring, impresses. If so, will it be enough to unseat Cody Asche?

## 10 Will bullpen arms dazzle again?

The bullpen is the most volatile part of a team. Relievers normally have up-and-down seasons. Will Ken Giles, Jake Diekman and Justin De Fratus improve, stay the same or have issues next season?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